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ABSTRACT

Although this bimonthly newsletter is prepared for teachers in Northern Colorado Educational Board of Cooperative Services (NCEBOCS) member school districts, information is included which would be useful to teachers outside the area. Teacher viewpoints, activities, approaches, and resources are compiled, among other items. The focus is on announcing new discoveries of classroom ideas that work, projects and programs of interest, and special events and workshops. The feature article describes a leadership training program for elementary math teachers in which participants share ideas, learn by doing and then plan workshops built around these concepts for fellow teachers in their own districts. Regular features include an environmental education column, and a calendar of events for teachers. Through the newsletter NCEBOCS disseminates news about educational programs and services, information about its operation, and further, facilitates the exchange of information about other programs engaged in innovative educational practices. The newsletter is free to those who wish to have their name placed on the mailing list. (SJM)

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VOL.1-NO.1
SEPT./OCT. 1973

Teacher Features

A NORTHERN COLORADO EDUCATIONAL BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES SPECIAL

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION

ED 084182

PERSONALIZED INSTRUCTION...
Teaching Other Teachers

Is Learning By Doing

"I'm concerned about providing services to teachers in the field, tailoring experiences to individual needs."

"Reading and language arts were consuming interests with me. Now that I've become involved in these workshops, math has come alive for me."

"It's a great thing. You have to see it and feel it to make it work."

These comments were offered by teachers in St. Vrain and Boulder Valley districts, about their experiences of learning by doing, in order to teach other teachers.

Nancy Hurianek, second grade teacher at Longmont Estates, Dennis Hurianek, sixth grade teacher at Niwot Elementary, St. Vrain district, and Dick Wells, sixth grade teacher at Kohl Elementary in Broomfield, Boulder Valley school district, have recently completed a leadership training program. Through this program, co-sponsored by NCEBOCS and the University of Wyoming Math/Science Center, participants share ideas, learn by doing, and have the opportunity to plan workshops built around these concepts for other teachers in their own districts.

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(Con't. from page 1 - Teaching)

Two-year veterans of the program, Nancy and Dennis Hurianek have already teamed in offering workshops for fellow teachers in their district. Nancy describes the typical tendancy for most participants in the initial workshop to experience the "shopping bag stage"--grabbing all ideas available, creating some, receiving some from other teachers.

Based on activity-learning, this workshop for elementary mathematics teachers allows participants to explore a variety of media and approaches for presenting math concepts and strands to their students. They're encouraged to develop their own ideas, to expand others, and to share their findings with the group. Such activities may involve pencil and paper, wooden cubes, cards, geoboards, popsicle sticks, bottle caps, or any other materials discovered to be effective and inexpensive for demonstrating skills and concepts. Teachers often adapt activities they create to other disciplines--to music, or language arts for example.

"We encourage adaptability," says Dennis Hurianek, "through comparison of activities, and through varying levels of difficulty per activity.

A follow-up workshop for teachers who have taken part in the first session will focus more on classroom management and utilization of activities. Nancy Hurianek explains, "This need grew out of our realization that enthusiasm during the 'shopping bag stage' leads inevitably to the question: 'Now what do I do with all these ideas and activities?' We want to help teachers use materials effectively in the classroom, then to evaluate how they used the materials."

Dennis elaborated, "Teachers in the workshop experience true alternative selection of learning styles by role-playing as students, learning by doing, then asking themselves these questions: How did I feel about this activity? What did I get out of it? How will my students feel about this activity?"

Asked about their own teaching growth as a result of participating in, and conducting such workshops, this team responded: "I'm using these activities now in my daily teaching, and seeing results." "I used to believe reading and language arts were the core of any good primary program. Now I'm seeing the importance of math, and it's coming alive in my classroom."

"We're seeds of an idea that works. I want to individualize more, using this activity approach in other subject areas in my own classroom."

"It's a great thing. You have to see it and feel it to make it work."

This team will be offering such workshops to elementary teachers this fall in St. Vrain and Boulder Valley districts. To find out how you can become involved, please contact:

Nancy Hurianek
Longmont Estates Elementary
St. Vrain district

Dennis Hurianek
Niwot Elementary
St. Vrain district

Dick Wells
Kohl Elementary
Broomfield, Boulder Valley district.

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TEACHER FEATURES is a bimonthly publication of Northern Colorado Educational Board of Cooperative Services. This newsletter is prepared for teachers in NCEBOCS member school districts. Please address information/inquiries to:

Linda M. Simons
Director of Information Services
NCEBOCS
830 S. Lincoln
Longmont, Colorado 80501
Phone: (303) 772-4420.

IDEAS That Work!

Teaching a novel at the junior high level had often left me wondering, "What do I do this time?" One activity which proved successful involved dramatizing a segment or series of segments from a novel. I left the choice and execution of scenes to the students' discretion and was amazed at the time they devoted to set design, costuming, blocking, and memorizing. In fact, the finished product far exceeded my expectations.

I would suggest having five or six copies of five or six contemporary adolescent novels. Assign or allow students to choose the novel of their choice, then turn them loose to read the book and prepare their dramatizations. Each group decides the number of days to be devoted to reading the book itself and then to presentation. Usually the entire activity--from choice of books to presentation--takes two weeks of classtime. I found that the activity works well with all ability groups since many junior high students really enjoy acting and role-playing.

Stuart Boyd,
Berthoud Jr.-Sr. High School

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Social studies and social sciences teachers have access to project materials, games and simulations, publishers' catalogs, and curriculum guides gathered across the country from ERIC/CHESS and the Social Studies Consortium. Located at 855 Broadway, Boulder, ERIC/CHESS is the "Educational Resources Information Center Clearinghouse" for Social Studies/Social Science Education, sponsored by the Social Studies Consortium. Teachers are invited to visit the Resources and Reference Center where they may review materials described above, and where they may seek consultive assistance. Ms. Sharon Ervin, Director of the Resource Center, and Mr. Fran Haley, Staff Assoc., will gladly assist teachers in the use of ERIC materials as well as other collections directed to social studies.

MATERIALS To Try!

"Math for Careers" - instructional packets produced for secondary students and available from NCEBOCS. Each packet has a "master" and a card set of resource activities.

Metric aids - resource or activity cards, manipulative aids, etc. now available for purchase from Metric Aids, Inc.

"Fraction Bars" - an instructional kit emphasizing activities on recognition, renaming, operations, etc. with fractional values. Available from Scott Resources, 1900 E. Lincoln, Fort Collins, Colo. 80521.

"Your World," a series of books with activities recommended for career education. The activities are categorized by age levels 1-4; 4-6; 6-9; and for career and special education; available from: Taylor Pub. Co., Dallas, Texas

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Available from Values Associates and the Aidrondack Mountain Humanistic Education Center, Upper Jay, New York 12987:

*Values-Clarification: A Handbook of Practical Strategies for Teachers and Students by Sidney Simon, Leland Howe & Howard Kirschenbaum. (NY:Hart Publishing, 1972) 79 methods for values-clarification are described, with instructions for the teacher and numerous examples of the basic strategies. $4.24 (Cloth, $7.50).

*WAD-JA-GET? The Grading Game in American Education by Howard Kirschenbaum, Sidney Simon and Rodney Napier (NY:Hart Publishing, 1971) Pros, cons, history, research, alternatives--built into an easy-to-read novel. $2.25 (Cloth $7.50).

*Understanding the Problem Child by Louis Raths and Anna Burrell (West Orange, N.J., Economics Press, 1963). Title should be "Understanding People." Has 200 suggestions to help teachers meet the emotional needs of students. (This pamphlet is the foundation of "IALAC." $1.50.)

CALENDAR of EVENTS — for TEACHERS

SEPTEMBER

21 Colorado High School Publication Conference, CU, Boulder, Colo. High School Activities Assn., 11351 E. Montview Blvd.,Aurora 80010 (366-1579)

21-23 Colorado Assn. for Retarded Children (CARC) Annual Convention, Colorado Springs. Mrs. Clem Spainhower, CARC, 643 S.Broadway, Denver (744-3391)

22 Colorado Education Assn.(CEA) Helpmobile, Holyoke, Frank Johnson, CEA, 5200 S. Quebec, Englewood, 80110 (771-4240)

22 General Music Workshop on Materials, Jefferson High School, Lakewood - Alex B. Campbell, 1036 S. Cole Dr., Denver 80228

29 American Choral Directors Fall Workshop for Colorado (location to be announced) Colorado Music Educators Assn. c/o Alex B. Campbell, 1036 South Cole Dr., Denver 80228.

29 Colorado Association of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (CAHPER) Workshop, Pueblo CAHPER, c/o Dr. George Sage, Univ. of Northern Colo., Greeley

OCTOBER

1-Dec.3 E.E.Workshop for Elementary teachers-NCEBOCS, 830 S.Lincoln, Longmont, Colo. 80501, (772-4420) Dr. R. Casebeer

4-7 Colorado Drama and Speech Assn. Convention, Vail, Colo. Colo. High School Activities Assn., 11351 E. Montview Blvd. Aurora 80010 (366-1579)

5-6 Career Education State Conference Pueblo, Ms.Jeanne Werschke, CDE, 892-3382

12-15 **U.S.Forest Service E.E. Workshop, Wild Basin Lodge, Highway #7, Dr. R. Casebeer, NCEBOCS, 830 S. Lincoln, Longmont, Colo. (772-4420).**

13 Colorado High School International Relations Conference, Northglenn High School, Colorado High School Activities Assn., 11351 E. Montview Blvd, Aurora, Colo. (366-1579)

15-17 Rocky Mountain States PTA Conference, Holiday Inn Downtown, Denver, Mrs. Helen Van Zant, Colorado PTA Office, 1441 Welton St., Room 219, Denver 80202 (825-6239 or 825-6230)

19-20 Colorado Business Education Association (CBEA) fall convention, CU, Boulder, Mary Ellen Bowe, CBEA, 2058 S. Winona Court, Denver, 80219

19-20 Colorado State Convention International Thespian Society, Grand Junction High School Grand Junction, Colorado Colo. High School Activities Association, 11351 E. Montview, Aurora, Colo. 80010 (366-1579)

20 National Association for Humanities Conference, Univ. of Northern Colorado (UNC) Greeley Terry Key, Univ. Center, UNC, Greeley 80631 (351-2007)

25-26 Changing Schools Conference, Metro-Denver Urban Coalition and CDE Dr. Charles Beck, ESEA Title III CDE, (892-2238)

25-27 Regional Conference of Colorado Association for the Education of Young Children, Denver Mrs. Lola Quinlan, Southeast Metropolitan Board of Cooperative Services, 2450 S. Wabash, Denver 80231 (755-9771)

27 Colorado Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (CAHPER), State Convention, Heritage High School, Littleton CAHPER, c/o Dr. George Sage, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colo.80631

31 Seminar on "Learning Centers, Activities, and Games for Individualization," Denver, Educational Consulting Associates, Inc., 3311 S. Broadway, Englewood 80110 (789-2219)

NOVEMBER

9 Greater Denver Council for Arts and Humanities (GDCAH), sponsoring lecture/demonstration recital by Jose Greco, Denver Elizabeth Yanish, c/o GDCAH, 131 Fairfax, Denver, Colo. 80220 (355-4590)

17 Colorado Education Assn. (CEA) Helpmobile, Buena Vista, Colo. Frank Johnson, CEA, 5200 S. Quebec St., Englewood 80110 (771-4240)

25-28 Colorado Library Assn. Annual Convention, Brown Palace, Denver, Evelyn Brewster, CDE, 892-2281

CAN WE ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS?

Do you have a question about a teaching technique? a testing method? a special curriculum? Try requesting an information search from NCEBOCS. Now there are two offices to serve you, in Longmont and in Greeley. Stop in and get acquainted with information specialists, write a letter, call, or fill out a form. Catalogs called GUIDE TO IRC SERVICES should be available in your building library.

These are some requests teachers have made over the summer on which you might also like to receive materials: "High Interest/Low Vocabulary Curriculum." "Criterion-Referenced Testing," "Activity Programs for Secondary Schools," "Behavior Modification," "Perceptual Motor Development."

For a search, contact:
"Information Specialist"

NCEBOCS	Michener Library
830 S. Lincoln	UNC Campus
Longmont, 772-4420	Greeley, 351-2264.

Environmental Education OVERVIEW

ST. VRAIN TEACHERS TEACH EACH OTHER

St. Vrain district teachers recently presented a mini-inservice course related to Environmental Education to over 50 teachers in the district. District Environmental Education Advisory Committee members and instructors from the Environmental Discovery School conducted demonstration talks for teachers at a 120-acre site belonging to the city of Longmont. The site was recently extended to district teachers and students for use in environmental/outdoor education through the efforts of the Advisory Committee and the NCEBOCS Coordinator of Environmental Education, Dr. Dick Casebeer.

Primarily for elementary teachers, and for secondary science and social studies teachers, the half-day experience features studies of wildlife, insects, geology, and plant life. Highlights of the site include the St. Vrain River, a large flood plain area, a pond community, a large cottonwood community, and geological creatures such as oxbows, stream deposits of gravel and rocks, and soil profiles. The site boasts convenient distance to schools within the district, and controlled access through the city sanitary landfill entrance station.

Following the inservice session, teachers were hosted to a bar-b-que at Buckingham Park.

E.E. Advisory Committee Chairman, Quentin Baker, points out the committee's interest in additional teachers, students and community volunteers. The committee is currently undertaking such projects as developing resource guides for use at the nature centers, and plans to create activities for supervised student use of these sites. More information is available from Quentin Baker, Niwot High School, St. Vrain School District.

E. E. Workshops for Teachers:

NCEBOCS Offers Integrated Environmental Education

NCEBOCS is offering a workshop for elementary teachers concerned with integrating Environmental Education into their regular curricula. The workshop will be held in the NCEBOCS Conference Room, Monday evening, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., beginning October 1, 1973, continuing for nine sessions. Three quarter hours of credit are offered by the University of Northern Colorado. Cost: $45.00 includes tuition plus two Saturday field trips. Instructor: Dr. Richard Casebeer, Coordinator of Environmental Education.

Objectives:

Participants in the workshop will develop:

*an awareness of the scope of environmental education;
*an understanding of the fundamental concepts of ecological relationships as they pertain to environmental problems;
*a comprehension of the nature and complexity of local and world-wide environmental problems;
*a familiarity with existing curriculum materials and teaching techniques;
*an understanding of the process and philosophy related to the development of learning strategies utilizing existing natural and man-made environmental resources.

For further information contact Dr. Richard Casebeer, NCEBOCS, 830 S. Lincoln, Longmont, Colorado 80501, phone 772-4420.

Process/ Problem-Solving Are Workshop Themes

Co-sponsored by NCEBOCS and the U. S. Forest Service, this workshop will teach the use of "the latest process and problem-solving techniques for involving others in the study of environmental habitats, soils in land use planning, forest environments and water quality criteria. Participants will gain skills in collecting, recording and interpreting environmental data, designing questioning strategies, and developing lesson plans." Participants will engage in field investigations, simulation games, classification activities, black top ecology and back-home action planning for environmental education.
Dates: October 12 (6 p.m.) through October 15 (4:30 p.m.)
Place: Wild Basin Lodge, 13 miles south of Estes Park on Highway 7.
Cost: Registration - $15.00; food and lodging - $22.00. Fees are payable during registration, Friday, October 12, 6-7 p.m.
Credit: Two university quarter-hours of credit are optional.

For further information contact Dr. Richard S. Casebeer, NCEBOCS, 830 S.Lincoln, Longmont, Colorado 80501.

NEW SOURCE BOOK AVAILABLE ON WILDLIFE AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

The PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON WILDLIFE AND THE ENVIRONMENT provides a new up-to-date source on many aspects of Colorado environment of interest to teachers of biology, general science, ecology, and environmental matters. A special Teacher's Aid supplement (sent free on request) contains summaries of the twenty papers, together with questions designed to aid the classroom teacher in using the Proceedings. Available from Dr. Gustav A. Swanson, Head of Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521.

WHAT DOES NCEBOCS OFFER TO TEACHERS?

"So who or what is NCEBOCS anyway, and what's it going to do for me?" Teachers hearing the above acronym frequently ask this question. NCEBOCS stands for Northern Colorado Educational Board of Cooperative Services. The "BOCS" part refers to a cooperative agency, formed at the request of six area school districts, who felt they could benefit by working together on certain programs and by seeking mutually needed services. The "Northern Colorado" beginning of the name indicates those member districts. They are: St. Vrain Re-1J, Longmont; Boulder Valley Re-2J, Boulder; Eastlake 12 in Adams County, Thornton/Northglenn; Poudre R-1, Fort Collins; Thompson R-2J, Loveland; and Park R-3, Estes Park. The University of Colorado, Colorado State University, and the University of Northern Colorado serve NCEBOCS as associate members, for cooperation in such endeavors as inservice, intern programs, and assistance to teachers. "BOCS" is a fairly new concept in Colorado's educational scene, having been legislated in 1965, and just this year receiving some supportive state funds. (NCEBOCS began in July, 1970.) Cooperative programs are funded primarily by member school districts, and from appropriate federal or special agency grants.

"What benefits do I receive from NCEBOCS by being a teacher in one of the member districts?" Teachers frequently direct questions to us such as "What information do you have about regular class placement for a child with special learning needs?" or "Can you give me some suggestions for setting up reading and science interest centers in an open-space facility?" In response to these questions, teachers may receive information products, searched from a variety of educational publications. (See separate reference to Information Retrieval Services on page 8.)

Teachers have indicated to us a need for more supplementary, activity-oriented teaching materials, in order to serve many learning styles. From teacher suggestions, and based on their findings during field test situations, we're creating IDEA BOOKS. This fall these three new IDEA BOOKS will be ready for field testing by interested secondary level teachers: Creative Writing, Film Study, and Film Making. The School Newspaper and Advertising and Propaganda are being revised according to suggestions from teachers who field-tested original versions last spring.

"Math Ideas Kits" have been prepared by teachers across the districts, under the coordination of Terry Snoemaker, Coordinator of Personalized Instruction. These math kits come in three versions, one for kindergarten through third grade levels, one 3-6, and one for preservice teachers. Kits contain activity cards for several math strands, objective-reference to five different textbook series. Additional supplies in the kit include such items as a geoboard, cards, cubes, and plastic chips. Teachers may participate in math workshops offered by NCEBOCS or by district teachers who have received leadership training through NCEBOCS and the University of Wyoming Math/Science Center.

Math teachers at the secondary level are involved in the creation of Career Mathematics kits, containing activity cards as well as background information related to a specified career such as cosmetology, health education, or auto mechanics. In addition, the teacher team members prepare slide/tape or film on-the-job workers, to lend more reality to the kits.

(Con't. on page 8)

(Con't. from page 7 - NCEBOCS)

Teachers can take part in planning district-wide or individual environmental education activities and special projects by serving on the district Environmental Education Advisory Committee. These committees consist of interested teachers and staff, students, and community members who want to help effect an awareness of the environment from a multidisciplinary view.

"What voice do I have in NCEBOCS programs and services?" Teachers have input toward programs and services they would like to see NCEBOCS offer, through identified channels. One is the Advisory Council, consisting of an administrative representative from each district, generally the Assistant Superintendent for Instruction. This Council interacts regularly with NCEBOCS staff, in order to maintain up-to-date communications concerning all projects and interests. Another regular channel is the NCEBOCS Board, consisting of one school board member per district. This Board is the decision-making body, receiving input from Advisory Council members and additional school district staff. (Please contact your districts administrative office or the NCEBOCS office to identify your representatives.)

There's more--like Minicourses for teachers, Colorado Caraven offering performances and workshops for students and teachers, Special Education planning and inservice, Program Planning and Evaluation design and assistance, Data Processing services in the areas of student and financial accounting, and Purchasing Assistance programs to help districts realize savings.

But there are more issues of TEACHER FEATURES coming up too, on a bimonthly basis. For details about availability, contact people, and costs where applicable, of any of the above programs, please contact: Linda M. Simons, Director of Information Services, NCEBOCS, 830 S. Lincoln, Longmont, 772-4420.

Why isn't there
A light bulb
On the top of
Your head
That lights up
Each time
I strike you
With a
Brilliant thought?

Like a
Tree that,
Crashing from
A stroke of
Lightning,
Lets you
Know it's
Been hit.

Or a
Buzzer
On a
Washing Machine
That tells
You,
"It's time to
take the
clothes out."

Instead
You sit there
With your
Mouth closed
and
Sometimes
Your
Eyes
And perhaps
Your mind?

Barbara Ritchey, English Journal, 61, No. 9 (Dec. 1972) 1315.

TEACHER FEATURES is new, from NCEBOCS, for member district teachers. We need your input to make it happen--such things as Ideas that Work: discoveries you've made about bringing your classroom alive, or materials that really help students arrive. Areas of Need: Let other teachers help you problem-solve by letting us know your need, so we can share it, and encourage other teachers to share with you answers they've found. Features: Clue us in on people and projects that you feel other teachers would like to hear about, or write a feature for other teachers to read, sharing your ideas. Advertise: a workshop or a special event you're planning and want involvement in, or want others to know more about. Share: Information to add to our "regulars"--the environmental education column, calendar of events for teachers-local, state, or regional. And from NCEBOCS: news about programs and services you can take advantage of.

What other regular or special features would you like to see in TEACHER FEATURES? Let us know. Please start by filling out the enclosed flyer and sending it to us, so we can print what you want to read in the next issue.